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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Hungary

DATE: 25X1A

SUBJECT Events Following Arrest of Béla Kovács

INFO. [REDACTED]

DIST. 10 March 1947

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SUPPLEMENT

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ORIGIN [REDACTED]

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The following has been reported on events following the Russian arrest of Bela Kovács, former Secretary General of the Small Holders Party.

1. The radical bloc sees the need for some solution to counteract the popular indignation in Hungary over the Kovács arrest. At the same time, however, the Small Holders Party is so intimidated by Russian interference that they are allegedly ready to make concessions to the demands of the radical bloc.
2. To resolve the crisis, the radical bloc has proposed that the number of Ministers be reduced from 18 to 12, thus reducing the Small Holder majority in the Council of Ministers without affecting their majority in Parliament. It is thought that this plan will probably be adopted with modifications.
3. Gyula Ortutay, the Director of MKH, (Hungarian Information Service) and a Left-wing Small Holder, will be appointed Minister of Education. He is reputed among his colleagues to be a secret member of the Communist Party and is noted for his open and extremely pro-Soviet sentiments.

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